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**PATENT APPLICATION  
DOCKET NO. 10991599-3**

**IN THE  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**INVENTOR(S):** Robert Rust et al.

**SERIAL NO.:** 10/688,487

**GROUP ART UNIT:** 2113

**FILED:** October 16, 2003

**EXAMINER:** Emerson C. Puente

**SUBJECT:** DATA STORAGE SYSTEMS AND METHODS

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**Amendment A**

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*Serial No. 10/688,487  
Case No. 10991599-3  
Amendment A*